

FOREWORD

History

This comprises the codification of the ordinances of the Township of Charlestown. The name, Charlestown, honors Charles Pickering, the friend to whom William Penn granted 5,383 acres along the creek where Pickering and his friend John Tinker believed (mistakenly) that they had found silver. The two men dug a cave into the side of "Tinker Hill," thus creating the first non-Indian residence in the Township. Drowned on a voyage back to England before 1700, Pickering willed his land to 16 friends. The acreage was combined with that of John Grey and of Penn's sister, Margaret Lawther, to become Charlestown Township in the first official survey of 1738. This included both Schuylkill Township and the Borough of Phoenixville, areas removed from Charlestown before 1850.¹

The Code of Ordinances of the Township of Charlestown was prepared by Keystone Publishers, Inc., and adopted by the Township of Charlestown Board of Supervisors on October 4, 2010, by *Ord. 160-2010*.

Organization

The Code contains four parts, which are: (1) the valid, current ordinances of the Township of Charlestown contained in Chapters 1 through 27; (2) the Appendix, which lists by abstracted title all ordinances of a temporary or "one time" nature; (3) the Table to Disposition of each Ordinance ever enacted by the Township of Charlestown; and (4) the Index, which is an alphabetical arrangement of subjects.

In the Code, specific ordinances can be located by subject on the contents page at the beginning of each chapter. The Index may also be used to search for a subject when one is looking for general information on a particular subject, or if it is not known in which chapter the subject might be found. The Appendix consists of several general categories containing a chronological listing of short subject descriptions along with a reference to the original ordinance and its date of enactment, if known.

The Table to Disposition indicates what action has been taken by the Township of Charlestown Board of Supervisors with regard to every ordinance ever enacted. An ordinance has either been: (1) specifically repealed; (2) superseded by another ordinance; (3) is located in a chapter of the Code book; or (4) is located in the Appendix. Annual tax rate and budget ordinances are located only in the Table to Disposition. The Table to Disposition is a cross reference to the original ordinance books of the Township of Charlestown and to the location within the Code of each ordinance by number.

ⁱ Editor's Note: This very brief history adapted from a brief history of the Township found at http://www.charlestown.org/ct-org/ct-hst/ctin_the_beginning.asp, July 1, 2010.